Medical College and, therefore, unable to attend the sittings of the Rajya Sabha from the 20th February, 1997 to 21st March, 1997. He has, therefore, requested for the grant of leave of absence accordingly.

Does he have the permission of the House for remaining absent from the sittings of the House from the 20th February, 1997 to 21st March, 1997?

(No. hon. Member dissented)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI AJIT P.K. JOGI): Permission to remain absent is granted.

Time of Sitting of the House

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I want to make a small suggestion for consideration of the House. I seek the consent of the House on one issue. The debate on the General Budget was provisionally scheduled to be on the 11th, 12th, 13th, und 17th March. Since the debate is not being taken up today and it is going to be initiated tomorrow, I would request the House, through you, to discuss the Budget with one hour extra on the 12th, 13th and 17th March. The House can sit up to 6 o'clock on 12th, 13th and 17th March to discuss the General Budget.

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT): Earlier we had no objection to the extension provided it was confined to 12th, 13th and 17th March only.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE (West Bengal): We have agreed to this only for three days.

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL (Rajasthan): We have agreed to discuss it on 12th, 13th and 17th March, 12 hours in all.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI AJIT P.K. JOGI): Your suggestion has been accepted.

DR. U. VENKATESWARLU: Thank you, Sir.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI AJIT P.K. JOGI): Now, we will take up Zero Hour submissions. Dr. Y. Radhakrishna Murty.

डा. वाई लक्ष्मी प्रसाद (आन्ध्र प्रदेश) **:** सर राष्ट्रकवि निराला के प्रति इस सरकार ने जो ...(**व्यवधान**)....

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI AJIT P.K. JOGI): Dr. prasad, please let him speak ....*(Interruptions)*.... let him speak.

श्री विष्णु कान्त शास्त्री (उत्तर प्रदेश) **:** सर, यह बिल्कुल ठीक बात कह रहे हैं। इतनी आपत्तिजनक खबर छपी हैं...(**व्यवधान**)...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री अजीत जोगी) : जीरो आवार में ...(**व्यवधान**)... पहले चेयरमैंन साहब ने जिनको अनुमति दी है, कृपया पहले उनको बोलने दीजिए। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री विष्णु कान्त शास्त्री (उत्तर प्रदेश) : सर, यह बात इतनी आवश्यक है ...(**व्यवधान**)...

डा. वाई. लक्ष्मी प्रसाद : सर, राष्ट्रकवि निराला जी ...(**व्यवधान**)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI AJIT P.K. JOGI): Dr. Lakshmi Prasad, you would get your chance later on. Please sit down.

जिनको चेयरमैंन साहब ने अनुमति दी हैं पहले उनको बोल लेने दीजिए ...(**व्यवधान**)... अभी आप बैठिए। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री विष्णु कान्त शास्त्री (उत्तर प्रदेश) **:** मैं यह मानता हूं कि ...(**व्यवधान**)... निराला जी का सवाल बहुत जरूरी है। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री अजीत जोगी) : आप पहले बैठ जाइए ...(**व्यवधान**)... कृपया आप बैठिए। जिन्होंने पहले से ही अनुमति ली हुई है, पहले उनको बोलने दीजिए। मिस्टर मूर्ति आप बोलिए।